

Charles Torrey.

PHELPS
MSS.

Salem, March 15th 1838

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Dear Br Phelps - your note in relation to Br E. R. Tyle was received - As I have never denied to Taylors, as such, the character of Christians & Christian ministers, or that in the main they are Calvinistic, I should have no scruples of conscience about the matter - My difficulty with Taylorism is that it admits the truth on some points (in opposition to Antinomian Calvinism & Methodism) while it inconsistently with itself adopts Arminian views on other connected points - 'Tis like a gate, with good stout hinges, well oiled, but hindered by rubbish from swinging clear open - But as to the case in hand - Williams is to supply for three months or less - And then he has given almost all the people the ague in reference to the Abolition part of the Gospel - And furthermore - the minister who should come recommended by the Howard St Minister would be rejected for that very reason - However, when Br Williams leaves I will try what may be done, if - I don't find one I like better in the mean time - To be received, he must be recommended there by some decided anti abolitionist minister - His Taylorism would neither help or hinder him so far as the views of the people themselves are

concerned. There are not ten persons - no more
in that society who could tell the difference
between a Taylorite and an Andoverian or even
a "Hop" - I mean to strain every proper cord to
its utmost tension to get an abolitionist in
there; but I do not think one who has been
so notorious, as an agent must be for fanatical
views, could be crowned in - yet I'll try -

I begin a course of fanatical lectures in Beverly
village on Monday Eve - with fair prospects of
getting up a strong society forthwith - Expect
soon also to go to Marblehead & do likewise.

The ~~soil~~ is well prepared in Beverly - St Clair
has been giving a course of Lectures in upper
Beverly - in the orthodox house - and organised
a good Society in that part of the town - Mr Foote
is straight - Mr. Evers of Topsfield is now studying
the subject in good earnest - no fear as to the
result - Mr Abbot of Beverly is straight in
principle - & will join the Society when it is
formed - Bushnell & Dr Williams the Rep-
tious man, will probably join likewise, tho' their
heads are a little foggy - Niles of Marblehead
is in an inquiring state: anti-slavery - but. His
but however is a pretty candid, inquiring sort of
one - St Clair & myself started a plan

of a bi-ministerial convention - But I doubt
whether we shall make it go - The old heads in
Essex North Association when it was brought
before them preferred to express their views as an
Association!! i.e. to evade it entirely, of course -
An our asso. Cooke of Lynn & Worcester, used
such influence as to get the opposition and
some wavering & moderate men to agree to sign
& publish a remonstrance, in case a call should
be published! I was not at the meeting - Cooke is
not two faced - but round faced - I hope he'll get
squared by & bye - if there are planes in Lynn - He
writes in the Recorder against ministers' con-
ventions etc - My family are well - Remember

us to your wife & family -

Yours with regard,

Charles F. Torrey -



Rev. A. A. Phelps.
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